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Hebert Blasts at Critics of CIA Student-Aid Action

Asks How Many Groups Helped by Red Fronts

In taking critics of the Central Intelligence Agency to task, U.S. Rep. F. Edward Hebert posed the question of how many American student organizations are being subsidized by foundations and groups which receive support from Communist-front organizations.

"I have not heard anybody raise a voice or come forward with that question," Hebert said on a Sunday television broadcast.

The veteran Louisiana congressman said that from his experience on the Un-American Activities Committee, nine of 10 organizations which carry gratuitous expressions of love of country and patriotism are Communist cells duping unsuspecting and unknowledgeable people.

'USING CONSTITUTION'

"They are using the Constitution of the United States and its protection to destroy it," Hebert pointed out.

Hebert said that the CIA is a spy organization doing what it is supposed to do—spy. As a member of the House Armed Services Special CIA Subcommittee for seven years, he pointed out that he has been privy to the CIA's activities, ventures, and objectives. This watchdog committee in the House and the one in the Senate know what the CIA is doing. Hebert said, then added that he applauds the job it has done.

"But," he said, "I decry the protestors and the news media which have presented this matter in such a light." The publicity given this episode has done more damage than if the enemy had sunk one of our submarines or aircraft carriers, the veteran legislator said.

'NEVER-NEVER LAND'

"These critics belong in never-never land or out on a cloud," Hebert said, "because they do not understand the realities and the basic necessities America must meet to remain free."

He said that the United States spends millions of dollars each year to obtain information on the Communist world, the type of information the Communists can get by buying a ten-cent newspaper.

He likened the critics of the CIA to those of the Vietnam war. The fight in both instances is to protect and guarantee liberty to those very people, Hebert said.

It is a sad day, Hebert said,

when Americans will criticize an organization such as the CIA, which is performing a difficult and unrewarding job to protect our basic freedom.